

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05755 01 OF 02 040131Z

67

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 IO-03 SY-02

DRC-01 /060 W

----- 015044

P 030615Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5669

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 SEOUL 5755

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS, JA

SUBJECT: ROK-JAPAN DIFFICULTIES

REF: SEOUL 5739

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF AIDE-MEMOIRE AND NOTES ON  
CONVERSATION AUGUST 30 BETWEEN PRESIDENT PARK AND JAPANESE  
AMBASSADOR USHIROKU, WHICH FONMIN KIM DONG JO GAVE  
USHIROKU SEPT 2 (REFTEL).

2. AIDE-MEMOIRE. BEGIN TEXT:

THE FOLLOWING IS THE POSITION OF THE KOREAN GOVERN-  
MENT TOWARD THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE ATTEMPT  
TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON  
15 AUGUST 1974 AT THE LIBERATION DAY CEREMONY:

1. THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT, ON 18 MAY 1974, INFORMED  
AND REQUESTED THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO THE FOLLOWING  
EFFECT:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 05755 01 OF 02 040131Z

1) THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS, AFTER SUSPEND-

ING UNILATERALLY ON 28 AUGUST 1973 THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE WHICH HAD BEEN CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE JULY 4 JOINT COMMUNIQUE, HAVE BEEN OVERTLY INTENSIFYING ITS ATTEMPTS TO COMMUNIZE THE WHOLE OF KOREA; THEY HAVE CONTINUED TO DISPATCH ESPIONAGE AGENTS AND GUERRILLAS THROUGH JAPAN;

2) THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS OBLIGED TO CONSIDER IT AS A SERIOUS SECURITY PROBLEM THAT THE TERRITORY OF JAPAN, A FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HAS BEEN UTILIZED BY NORTH KOREA FOR AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA;

3) THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS HAVE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED THE SO-CALLED UNIFICATION PROJECT PROMOTION COMMITTEE UNDER THE CHOCHONGRYUN HEADQUARTERS, A UNIFICATION PROMOTION DIVISION FOR EACH OF ITS 13 CENTRAL BUREAUS, A POLITICAL SECTION FOR EACH OF ITS 13 AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND 16 OPERATION UNITS AND APPOINTED A UNIFICATION PROMOTION OFFICER FOR EACH OF ITS 49 PREFECTURAL BRANCH OFFICES, THUS CONCENTRATING ALL-OUT EFFORTS ON OPERATIONS TO OVERTHROW THE STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA;

4) IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE JAPANESE TERRITORY SHOULD NOT BE USED AS BASES FOR SCHEMES AND ACTIVITIES TO OVERTHROW THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, IF THE TRADITIONAL KOREA-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP IS TO BE MAINTAINED AND PROMOTED, AND IF THE TREATY ON BASIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND JAPAN IS TO BE SCRUPULOUSLY IMPLEMENTED, THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO PROMPTLY TAKE SINCERE AND EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO PREVENT SCHEMES AND ACTIVITIES, CARRIED OUT THROUGH THE CHOCHONGRYUN AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN JAPAN WHICH ARE WORKING AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

THE SAID ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, HOWEVER, TOOK PLACE BEFORE THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT HAD RECEIVED ANY REPLY FROM THE JAPANESE SIDE IN RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE REQUEST.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 05755 01 OF 02 040131Z

THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT, IF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAD PROMPTLY TAKEN EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO THAT REQUEST, THE SAID UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED.

2. INVESTIGATIONS HAVE CLARIFIED THE FOLLOWING IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT UNDER REFERENCE:

1) THE CRIMINAL HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS MUN SE KWANG, WHO WAS BORN IN JAPAN AND RESIDED IN JAPAN UNTIL THE TIME OF THE CRIME, AND WHO HAS JOINED THE CHOCHONGRYUN.

2) THE CRIMINAL ENTERED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON A PASSPORT ISSUED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WHICH HE HAD ACQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMITTING THE CRIME.

3) IN COMMITTING THE CRIME, THE CRIMINAL USED A REVOLVER BELONGING TO THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

4) AT LEAST THREE ACCOMPLICES HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE CRIME, INCLUDING KIM HO RYONG, DIRECTOR OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE WEST IKUNO-KU CHAPTER OF THE OSAKA BRANCH OF THE CHOCHONGRYUN, AND MR. AND MRS. YUKIO YOSHII, BOTH JAPANESE NATIONALS; THE SAID CRIME WAS PLOTTED AND PREPARED IN JAPAN.

5) THE CRIME ALSO INVOLVED NORTH KOREAN AGENTS WHO HAD BEEN TRAVELLING BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND JAPAN ABOARD A NORTH KOREAN VESSEL, THE MANKYONGBONG.

6) NORTH KOREA AND THE CHOCHONGRYUN IN JAPAN MANIPULATED THE PLOT.

3. THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT STRONGLY REQUESTS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, AS A MEASURE TO SETTLE THE PROBLEM FUNDAMENTALLY AND THEREBY AVOID SOWING UNFORTUNATE SEEDS IN THE KOREA-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP, TO OUTLAW THE CHOCHONGRYUN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SEOUL 05755 01 OF 02 040131Z

AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE BEING USED AS BASES FROM WHICH TO OVERTHROW THE STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, OR STRICTLY TO REGULATE AND CHECK ALL SCHEMES AND ACTIVITIES WHICH THREATEN THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

ERICSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05755 02 OF 02 030737Z

12

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 IO-03 SY-02

DRC-01 /060 W

----- 004907

P 030615Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5670

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 SEOUL 5755

LIMDIS

4. THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS ONCE AGAIN THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES WITHOUT DELAY AS REQUESTED SO FAR BY THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT. IT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED AGAIN THAT THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATIONS INTO, AND TAKE PUNITIVE MEASURES AGAINST, THE ACCOMPLICES RESIDING IN JAPAN IN THE SAID ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT AND FIND OUT AND DISCLOSE THE RELEVANT FACTS ABOUT THE MANIPULATORS OF THE SAID CASE.

5. THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IS DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THE KOREA-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP MIGHT DETERIORATE INTO A GRAVE AND SERIOUS STATE UNLESS JAPAN EXERTS THE UTMOST EFFORT AND SINCERITY TO MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND JAPAN. END TEXT.

3. NOTES ON CONVERSATION AUGUST 30. BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BEAR DUE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE INCIDENT IN QUESTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 05755 02 OF 02 030737Z

2. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SHOW A POSITIVE AND MOST SINCERE ATTITUDE IN CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE CASE.

3. IN THE INTEREST OF THE FUTURE OF THE KOREA-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD EITHER OUTLAW BASICALLY THE CHOCHONGRYUN WHICH IS A CRIMINAL GROUP ATTEMPTING TO OVERTHROW AND DESTROY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FROM THEIR BASES IN JAPAN, OR STRICTLY REGULATE AND CHECK ALL ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND SCHEMES FOR VIOLENT ACTS OF FORCE.

4. THERE IS NOT THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE IN THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO MAINTAIN THE FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL BETWEEN KOREA AND JAPAN.

5. HOWEVER, I AM AFRAID THAT UNLESS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TAKES A SINCERE MEASURE WITH REGARD TO THE INCIDENT, THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS BOUND TO DEVELOP INTO A GRAVE AND SERIOUS SITUATION.  
I AM MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THAT POINT. END TEXT.  
ERICSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, POLICIES, ESPIONAGE, CRIMES, AIDE MEMOIRE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMUNISTS, INVESTIGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** papenddr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SEOUL05755  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740244-0308  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740979/aaaacoso.tel  
**Line Count:** 242  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** SEOUL 5739  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** papenddr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by shawdg>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <17 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2005 by papenddr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ROK-JAPAN DIFFICULTIES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, KS, JA, (PARK), (USHIROKU)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005